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26 January 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Warner

SUBJECT: Congressional Comments from General Cabell

1. General Cabell told me this morning that he had seen congressmen from the Texas Delegation at a dinner last night. He said he took Speaker Rayburn aside and told him that we were very anxious to sit down with him and give him a complete story on the Agency and its workings and intelligence generally. Mr. Rayburn said he would be very glad to do that and asked General Cabell to call him personally at his office. I told General Cabell about your talks with Ken BeLieu and a proposal to have a briefing for Senator Lyndon Johnson. General Cabell immediately suggested that if we could combine Speaker Rayburn and Senator Johnson it would be an excellent move. I said as soon as you developed things further with Mr. BeLieu you would get in touch with General Cabell and coordinate the approach on such a briefing.

2. General Cabell said he also spoke to Congressman Mahon, who told General Cabell that when he was in Germany he had sent a cable to the Speaker recommending that no precipitant action be taken on Joint Committee matters until he, Mahon, returned and had a chance to discuss the Agency with Mr. Rayburn. General Cabell said he also talked to Congressman Teague, with whom he is personally quite friendly. Mr. Teague said there was an awful lot of talk about a Joint Committee and someone would have to get up and do something about it. General Cabell said he pointed out our feeling that it would be quite inappropriate for this Agency to take the stump on such a matter as it was Congress' job to organize itself. Mr. Teague said he still felt that someone should do something about it. They then talked about practical problems in a Joint Committee, and General Cabell mentioned his worries about the staff. Mr. Teague

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asked if it would be possible to take young officers (no indication whether he meant military or CIA intelligence officers) and have them serve tours as a committee staff. General Cabell raised the point that officers of this type would have their real loyalties with the Executive Branch and wondered if this would be acceptable to the congressmen. Mr. Teague said he was not sure about this, but it might be acceptable.

/s/

Lawrence R. Houston

OGC:LRH:jeb
Orig & lcc-Addressee
lcc-General Counsel

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